

Black Legacy Our Past, Present and Future.

Inland Empire



His Style Was As "Sweet As Sugar!"

PAST

"Sugar" Ray Robinson
Born: May 3, 1921
Contribution: Sports

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Walker Smith Jr., best remembered as "Sugar" Ray Robinson was born in Ailey, Georgia, yet his parents to New York to escape the prevalent prejudice in the South. It was there, in a Harlem gym, that he started his boxing career. When his coach watched him box for the first time, he described Robinson's boxing style to be as "sweet as sugar." The nickname stuck. After winning the New York Golden Gloves championship in 1940, 19-year-old Sugar Ray turned pro and never looked back. By 1946, Sugar Ray was the world welterweight champion. His reign included a 91 fight winning-streak. He held the title for five years, and then moved onto acquiring the world middleweight title, which he held five times between 1951-1960. A dominant force in the boxing ring for two decades, Sugar Ray was 38 when he won his last middleweight title. Sugar Ray's record was 128-1-2 with 84 knockouts at the pinnacle of his career. In 1997, The Ring magazine named Sugar Ray "pound for pound, the best boxer of all time." More recently, in 1999, the Associated Press named him both the greatest welterweight and middleweight boxer of the century. World champion Muhammad Ali called him "the king, the master, my idol."



One of the Most Famous Basketballers Ever!

PRESENT

Julius Winfield Erving
Born: February 22, 1950
Contribution: Sports

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Julius Winfield Erving II, Dr. J, is a former basketball player who helped launch a modern style of play that emphasizes leaping and play above the rim. Erving won three championships, four Most Valuable Player Awards, and three scoring titles while playing with the ABA's Virginia Squires and New York Nets and the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers. He is the fifth-highest scorer in professional basketball history, with 30,026 points. Erving was named to the NBA's 50th Anniversary All-Time team and has been inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. In 2003, he was ranked #10 on SLAM Magazine's Top 75 NBA Players of All Time. Many consider him among the most spectacular basketballers ever, and one of the best dunkers along with Vince Carter, Jason Richardson, Michael Jordan, and Dominique Wilkins. His signature dunk was "the Tomahawk." After his basketball career, Erving was equally successful. He became a businessman, obtaining ownership of a Coca-Cola bottling plant in Philadelphia and doing work for TV as an analyst. In 1997, he joined the front office of the Orlando Magic. He has also served on the Board of Directors of Converse, Darden Restaurants, Inc., Saks Incorporated, and The Sports Authority. Erving is also the father of professional tennis player Alexandra Stevenson.

What Will You Contribute To The Legacy?